

**Minutes**  
**State Board of Education Retreat**  
**Monday, January 19, 2004**

The Arizona State Board of Education held a special meeting at the Phoenix Country Club, 2901 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix, AZ 85014, hosted by Vice President Diethelm. The meeting began at approximately 9:05AM.

**Members Present**

Ms. Nadine Mathis-Basha, President  
Dr. Matthew Diethelm, Vice president  
Ms. Armida Bittner  
Ms. Conkie Hoover  
Ms. Joanne Hilde  
Superintendent Tom Horne  
Ms. Joanne Kramer  
Dr. John Pedicone

**Member Absent**

Dr. Michael Crow

**Others Present**

Ms. Mariko Silver for Dr. Michael Crow

***Board Business***

A flag was not available, therefore the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence were not conducted.

**Roll Call**

Ms. Flaming

- A. Ms. Basha thanked Dr. Diethelm for hosting this meeting. Ms. Basha welcomed members stating this is a good opportunity to set priorities and direction for the year, look at policies and procedure, and to reflect the interests of the members. Today will also include a political agenda in that Becky Hill will report Governor Napolitano's Education Agenda, and at lunch Representative Linda Gray, Chair, House Education Committee will join them for discussion. Senator Toni Hellon, Chair, Senate Education Committee, was unable to join today due to a scheduling conflict.
- B. Dr. Diethelm thanked members for their work to improve education in Arizona and asked Ms. Farley to review the prepared information. Ms. Farley stated that the current Board rules have been used as a basis to plan forward regarding increasing public input to the Board, upcoming critical issues, election of officers and leadership training for future Board members. Proposed policies and procedures developed by the sub-committee were presented, as well as the meeting schedules for 2004, to be placed on the consent agenda at the January 26, 2004 Board meeting.  
The members have a draft of the proposed "Critical Issues Timeframe." The "Critical Issues Timeframe" will be forthcoming, following the Executive Team meeting on January 20, 2004 for consideration at the January 26, 2004 Board meeting. The Timeline will be kept as a "living document" which members can add to as they become aware of items requiring the attention of the Board.  
Ms. Farley stated that a majority of the Policies and Procedures item was modeled after the Arizona Board of Regents' document, which they have used for several years and established as good working order for their Board. Ms. Farley reviewed the main points of the Policies and Procedures, which provide for Board members to receive materials in a timely manner to allow for review before each Board meeting. In addition, a provision is included to call special meetings as well as the process to formalize adopting or modifying a policy to come to the Board at least twice for discussion. The first time for presentation and discussion only and, at

the next regularly scheduled meeting, the item would come back for Board action, unless another timeline is identified by the Board.

Regarding communications to and from the Board members, Ms. Farley stated that the subcommittee was comfortable with continuing to have mail and correspondence from the public as well as press calls come primarily through the State Board Office and staff will forward phone numbers, etc., and distribute mail once a month. Mail will be opened to determine if it is time-sensitive.

Ms. Farley and Dr. Diethelm clarified that if Board members are asked to speak or serve in a public forum, members should be clear as to whether they are addressing issues from the viewpoint of the State Board or from their personal viewpoint. Ms. Farley is the point person to be notified of media contacts, but that as each member is contacted, they speak as one member of the State Board. Ms. Farley will work on language for clarification which will be on the consent agenda at the January 26, 2004 Board meeting.

Formal elections will be held in January this year. In August, each following year, the subcommittee recommends preparing a list of recommended Board officers to review in September to allow training time for new leadership.

C. Ms. Becky Hill from Governor Napolitano's office presented the Governor's key education priority areas:

a. Professional Development

i. Reading Literacy

Emphasis is already placed on early education, reading by the grade 3 and post high school adult education. The Governor also wants a strong literacy component in the rest of K-12 and believes the grades 4-8 literacy professional development programs should include reading literacy. The Governor is asking for public debate regarding this issue and that the universities be present in these discussions. The Governor will support the program that offers the most rigor and best outcomes. Once the concept is decided, it will take time for universities to put programs in place and for all teachers to meet the requirements. The Governor is not running a bill on this issue, but rather is interested in an administrative route to achieve some uniformity in the statewide quality professional development program and also create the coursework at the college level.

Ms. Hilde suggested that the ABOR be included as this process is considered.

Ms. Bittner stated that she has attended two professional development summer symposiums by Miriam Podrazik, Arizona Department of Education, which are attended by educators throughout Arizona. Since this is already established, it may be worthwhile to see if this program can be utilized for this purpose.

ii. Master Teachers

The state needs to provide monies (a scholarship fund) to send teachers through the professional development process to show that the state recognizes professional development is important and because sometimes the state mandates things that people cannot afford.

The state also wants to place those teachers who have the most experience and greatest outcomes and who are great mentors into the districts that need them the most. Teachers at this level want to share their vision and knowledge, but districts cannot always afford them and the teachers cannot afford to leave their present post. There are corporations interested in starting a foundation to fund the master teacher program. Recognizing these programs take time to start, the Governor has found \$250,000 seed money to start this year. The program should include some combination of the four core pieces: classroom time, extended service time, mentoring, coursework and content knowledge. The Governor would like to see the

State Board of Education hold a meeting to take public testimony on the issue to hear where the professional and business community is on this subject. The Governor is requesting the Board adopt a definition, including input from the Certification Advisory Council, deferring to the Board with regard to the timeline but asking that they start the process this year.

- iii. The State Board, School Readiness Board, and Certification Task Force have been working on Early Education, K-3. The School Readiness Board has secured \$1.6M federal grant for scholarships for professional development at the early education level for quality child care preschool.

b. Early Education

- i. Governor Napolitano convened and restructured an ad hoc committee that Governor Hull had previously called together, and the committee went to work on this matter. The result to date is nine priority recommendations, which include:
  - ii. quality childcare with a rating system for parents;
  - iii. Professional Development for early educators;
  - iv. Child development components;
  - v. Preschool;

The push for full day kindergarten and quality childcare creates the capacity for preschool. Alhambra, for example, is ready to expand their preschool program, because they see the advantage in the third grade scores due to the all day kindergarten program already in place;

- vi. Full day kindergarten;

Many districts offer some version of full day kindergarten, but they have to use Title I dollars, foundation dollars, M & O money, or raise funds by other means. Parents want this program, educators know it works so there is no excuse why districts are struggling to pay for it. The State should pay for it. Program and teacher capacity is a concern in some districts related primarily to dollars. Governor Napolitano wants the priorities to be identified early and funded early. To that end, early education including full day kindergarten will be one of those priorities first targeting the most at-risk students. If an elementary school has 90% free/reduced lunch program participation, that school will be on the list to receive M&O dollars from the state next school year. Also, the proposal amends Students First to allow half-day kindergarteners to be counted as full-day kindergarteners next fiscal school year for capital. Further discussion ensued and Ms. Hill referred to the enclosed chart of the Governor's recommendations for the five-year phase-in. The Governor's Office also asked the Board to keep them apprised of any substantive changes made to the early education standards. Are they appropriate and ready for a statewide program that is funded by the state? Ms. Farley reminded the members that the suggestion was that the standards be out in the field, letting them work through them for a couple of years, and then come back to the Board with practical recommendations regarding wording, etc., for practicality of the standards.

- c. An additional request from the Governor is in regard to Arizona's Native American community. It is recommended that all agencies focus more on Native American issues. One way could be holding subsequent State Board of Education meetings in one or more of the local Native American communities. Members are supportive of this action and will be taking this into consideration.

- D. The Critical Issues calendar was assembled by Ms. Farley according to priorities identified through the sub-committee, information members sent to the office, and in cooperation with the Superintendent's office and the Department of Education to start a calendar and avoid big

surprises throughout the year. The calendar will be reviewed with the Executive Team on Tuesday, January 20, 2004. A more complete calendar incorporating the Governor's requests and ADE priorities will be available at the Board meeting on January 26, 2004. The nine areas of academic standards are currently being reviewed by the Superintendent's office and therefore the comprehensive curriculum discussion will be moved to a February or March item. It was noted that this Timeline is a "living" document and can be amended as necessary. In addition, Ms. Basha pointed out that some items could be appropriate as a study session item and outside expertise is welcome, as well.

Ms. Hilde stated she would like to see the Governor's agenda moved to the forefront, particularly the one that centers around the middle school issue.

Ms. Farley asked members to give her feedback by Thursday and she will forward the new document to members by Friday, January 23, 2004.

- E. The role of the State Board is to serve the public and be more accessible to families and professionals in the field. The first calendar presented today is the 2004 Board meeting dates as calendared for the last Monday of each month, with exceptions for holidays as noted. The second calendar is the schedule from the sub-committee in an effort to prepare for having possible study sessions or emergency meetings. Feedback was requested from members regarding the proposed dates with the idea that two meetings per month is not the goal, but rather to provide some available dates for planning as needed by the Board. The 2004 State Board schedule shows the originally planned dates and a second document was submitted suggesting a change in the November and December dates in an effort to reduce the long period of time between meetings and still allow for the holidays. These would be a possible Board Study Session on November 15, 2004, with no regular Board meeting in November, and a State Board meeting on December 6, 2004. Ms. Farley asked for feedback from members and the general consensus was favorable to have a meeting the first week of December. This will be included on the January 26, 2004 agenda as a consent item. Further discussion regarding off-site meetings occurred including whether a study session should be held in more than one location on targeted issues allowing for public input, and the impact to have a full Board meeting out of town. It was suggested to look at a two-year timeframe with possibly six meetings held at off-site locations around the state. Ms. Hill will take some comments from the Governor's working group on Native American issues as to locations with facilities that could accommodate these types of meetings in Native American communities.

Ms. Farley reviewed legislative issues that this Board has voted to support:

1. Budget request for an additional Investigator funded out of the Certification Fund, included by the Governor in her budget recommendations and awaiting consideration by the JLBC;

2. Create efficiencies within the Investigative Unit, and engage in discussions with the education community to establish a criminal penalty for any certificate holders who makes a sexual advance or enters into a dating or romantic relationship with a student in our K-12 system who is under 18. Conversations are being held with AEA legal counsel regarding language, ASBA, and other organizations for feedback on this subject. The legislation includes:

- i. Setting timeframes for an incomplete application by which an applicant has to provide requested information. If they do not do so in the specified period of time, their application is considered withdrawn;

- ii. Re-application after surrendering or having a certificate denied or revoked, according to rule research done to date by Ms. Farley, indicates a six-year timeframe used to exist before the certificate can be re-considered. This bill re-institutes a 5-year timeframe. The

burden is placed on the applicant to justify re-certification in the interest of saving time of the PPAC, staff, attorney, and board members;

iii. Notify certificate holders at their last known address and places some burden on certificate holders to keep their current address on file with the Department within 30 days of an address change, modeled after what other regulatory agencies do;

Ms. Farley noted that any appeals on these issues go through the PPAC as all issues do with certificate holders. Unless there is additional feedback from members, this issue is likely to be scheduled for a legislative hearing the first week in February in the House.

- F. Ms. Farley stated that last year the Board supported a moratorium on its sponsoring new Charter Schools. The fiscal year '04 Budget moved all staff to the Charter Board. Meetings were held with the charter school communities, especially those sponsored by the SBE, to insure they received proper service from the Charter Board and felt part of that community. Staff recommends continuing to support the moratorium and taking action at Monday's meeting since the Charter Board has provided quality support to the charter schools and there is not funding or staff to perform additional reviews if the State Board were to take this responsibility back. Last year twenty-three new schools were sponsored by the State Board for Charter Schools so the moratorium has not been detrimental to the expansion of quality charter schools.

Ms. Farley stated that there are approximately 50 education-related bills introduced by the Legislature so far. Staff is working on listing these in short summaries for members to receive at Monday's meeting. In terms of establishing Board positions on these items, Ms. Farley cautioned against taking a position on every bill that is introduced. Ms. Farley would like to develop some parameters in the absence of the Board taking a position, which would provide principles she could apply in giving feedback to Legislators. These parameters could dictate that it is the Board staff's responsibility to educate members on the current responsibilities, activities and budget constraints if taking on new responsibilities. Legislative proposals to increase our responsibilities, needs to be evaluated for fiscal impact.

If new legislative proposals require additional responsibilities of the State Board, and if it requires the Department of Education to make a recommendation to the Board the legislation should specify that, the department is responsible to come up with a recommendation. The legislation should be drafted to make this clear to help in terms of setting the schedule, working with the Department and in terms of everyone seeing the shared responsibility. If members are receptive, Ms. Farley will put something together for consideration at Monday's meeting.

Dr. Pedicone suggested that a pre-cursor to this action could be establishment of the Board philosophy so the boundaries are not exceeded in any Board action. Ms. Farley will put something together for Monday and suggested that a broader conversation could also be had at the Board meeting on Monday, and a policy could be adopted in February with general guidance parameters until the February meeting.

Ms. Farley also addressed the fact that the State Board of Community Colleges having been eliminated affects Ms. Hoover's position on the State Board. Legislation has been introduced to change the statutory reference and to go to the ballot to change the constitutional makeup. This will put in place a Chancellor or President of a Community College in this place. This position will be the equivalent of the level of other members serving on this Board. Also included in this Legislation is the recommendation to add an owner or administrator of a Charter School, which would provide the Board with an even number of members. Six members would then be needed for a quorum and six to approve any item. Recommendations

from members suggest it is better to have an odd number of members perhaps by including a non-voting, ex-officio representative. Further discussion on this matter is warranted.

- G. The Board sub-committee recommended improved communications with the Attorney General's Office to improve the rulemaking process. Ms. Farley has spoken with Ms. Epstein, Ms. Segal, and Ms. Sklaveny regarding the rulemaking process for improvement in incorporating the Attorney General's Office in providing comments during the period between proposed rulemaking and final rulemaking. With the understanding that laws change after final rulemaking has been submitted, occasionally rule packages may be sent back. We are striving to keep to the timelines established under statute and have been sending our rule packages over in a more advanced timeframe to seek their input.
- H. Ms. Farley updated the Board members regarding the English Language Learner Rules that the rules package has made its way through the entire process and we have ELL Rules on monitoring, assessment, identification and exit from the program. We have made significant steps in complying with the Flores Consent Decree, the requirements of NCLB, and HB 2010 from the 2001 Legislature. The outstanding issue regarding the Flores Consent Decree relates to teacher qualification. This issue has not been ignored, but has been reviewed with the Board on several occasions. The early drafts, when Ms. Farley started this position, were not satisfactory to the constituency or in terms of rulemaking form to bring to the Board for action. At the October 2003 meeting, the Superintendent committed to making this item a priority. A task force and bilingual consortium have convened several times and provided recommendations. Ms. Farley has also met with the bilingual consortium and hopes to have recommendations at the February 2004 Board meeting. Ms. Farley's recommendations will be to settle on a proposal initially for people to respond to and bring everyone to the table to work out what the Board believes is the most responsible proposal.

*A short break was taken at 11:35AM to organize for the lunch meeting with Representative Gray. Meeting was re-convened at 11:55AM.*

Ms. Basha outlined the intents of the Board, which are to improve collaboration with stakeholders in various capacities and build a bridge and relationship to work together. The Board is interested in what Rep. Gray sees coming ahead as it works on setting out their objectives for the year and working together through some of the critical issues.

Legislative Issues for 2004 and other topics highlighted by Representative Linda Gray:

- Funding
  - Maintaining 2% inflation funding
  - Providing for growth in the districts
- Education consolidation bill;
  - more money into the classroom instead of administration
  - Start date of school
  - Utility costs
- Embedded AIMS
- Teacher retirement pay-outs
  - Unused sick leave, etc.
- Desegregation
  - Complying with federal law and state law
  - ELL
  - Maintain cap
- Graduation requirements to include vocational education requirements
- Excess utilities (which could be affected if the school start date is changed and she is proposing an earliest date be set in mid-August)

- Tax credits
- Compliance Bill that Superintendent Horne had last year
- Proposition 301 monies allocations
  - School for the Deaf and Blind doesn't receive these monies
- Commission on Unification Consolidation
  - Transporting district review included
- Nutrition issue – recommends Board handles. Board reported the following:
  - Pilot program to be presented to the Board at January meeting
  - Governor's Office is doing a Call to Action regarding healthy children on January 30, 2004
  - Exercise programs and recess times are being eliminated at schools
    - This was not the intent of NCLB
  - Schools generate revenue from soft drink vending machines that must be considered in any state policy discussion
- Standards Programs in Arizona
- Prototypes of full-day kindergarten programs set up by the Arizona Department of Education
- Resource information regarding professional development available to schools/teachers

Ms. Becky Hill reviewed the Governor's priorities at Representative Gray's request.

*Motion to adjourn by Dr. Pedicone. Seconded by Ms. Hilde. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 12:50PM.*